



**SHEPHERD
CENTER**

A Catastrophic
Care Hospital

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August 3, 2009

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Amendment of Parts 2 and 95 of the Rules to Provide Additional
Spectrum for Medical Device Radiocommunication Service in the
413-457 MHz Band (ET Dkt. No. 09-36; RM-11404)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Shepherd Center eagerly supports expeditious Commission action to encourage deployment of medical micro-power network ("MMN") devices in the 413-457 MHz band.

Shepherd is a private, non-profit specialty hospital serving individuals who have experienced traumatic spinal cord and brain injuries. We are actively involved in research and treatment of neuromuscular injuries and are keenly aware of the tremendous physical, psychological, and financial burdens imposed by these injuries. Currently, the available medical treatment options are limited and the demand for more effective options continues to grow, as these injuries and conditions take their toll on an increasing number of people and their families and friends.

We are aware that the Alfred Mann Foundation ("AMF") has been developing MMN devices that could be invaluable in the treatment of various neuromuscular injuries and conditions. We believe that MMN technology provides a unique wireless approach that is unlike any commercially available treatment option. This technology, if successful, will revolutionize medical treatment for the millions of people who experience debilitating neuromuscular injuries and conditions.

The Commission should dedicate the resources necessary to allow the technology to realize its full potential. We urge the Commission to allocate the full amount of spectrum requested by AMF for MMN use and to adopt service and technical rules permitting MMN operation.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Jones, PhD
Vice President, Research and Technology